the position of customer service and to take prompt remedial action if any specific complaint is received. The Staff component at both the branches, keeping in view the business levels, is adequate.

(c) As per bank, a large number of pensioners' accounts are non-cheque book facility accounts where the withdrawals are permitted based on withdrawal forms as per bank's laid down systems and procedures. Any pensioner who wants to have a cheque book facility is issued cheque book.

(d) With a view to further enhance the level of customer satisfaction, the bank has a proposal for installation of an ATM at Sultanpur Main Branch which is already fully computerized.

Request to ICAO for apprehension of hijackers

*316. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government wrote to International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) for apprehending the hijackers and their accomplices and bringing them to justice;

(b) if so, the response of the ICAO;

(c) whether they have made any efforts to get extradition of hijackers involved in plane hijacking; and

(d) if so, the extent to which ICAO has helped India?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) to (d) Yes Sir, the issue of hijacking of Indian Airlines plane to Kandahar in December, 1999 was taken up by the Representative of India (ROI) in the Council of ICAO with the President of ICAO. The President of ICAO had sent a message to the Civil Aviation Minister of Afghanistan on 27th December, 1999 which was replied to by the Afghan authorities on 29th December, 1999. Subsequently the Afghan authorities sent another letter to the President of ICAO on 2nd January, 2000 after the crew, passengers and the aircraft left Kabul. The President of ICAO in his reply of 3rd January, 2000, *inter alia*, brought to the notice of the Afghan authorities the provisions of the Hague Convention under which the perpetrators of acts of unlawful interference should

not find a safe haven from prosecution regardless of the country where they are found.

Further, Government approached International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) on 17-1-2000 with a request to follow up with Pakistan with a view to apprehending followed by extradition of the offenders and their accomplices to India. A note on the hijacking was also circulated to all member States of ICAO. The issue of the hijacking of IC-814 was also discussed in the ICAO Council on 28-2-2000.

Production of Oil from New Wells

†317. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the crude oil and natural gas reserves are explored;

(b) if so, the assessment regarding quantities of crude oil and natural gas reserves in the country by the end of March, 2001; and

(c) the number of reserves where arrangements have been made for the production by the end of March, 2001 out of these?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The total reserves of crude oil and natural gas as on 1-4-2001 were 714.08 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) and 734.85 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) respectively in the country, the details of which are given below :—

	Crude Oil (MMT)	Gas (BCM)
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.	582.07	508.37
Oil India Ltd.	73.42	96.16
Private/JV Companies	58.59	130.32
TOTAL :	714.08	734.85

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.